
BIENNIAL REPORT
OF THE
SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION,
FOR THE
SCHOOL YEARS 1883 AND 1884.

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BIENNIAL REPORT

OF THE

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

To the Governor of the State of Florida:

For the year 1883, and to the date of the appointment of the Hon. A. J. Russell as Superintendent of Public Instruction, I desire to make the following report in reference to the Normal Schools and the Teachers' Institutes:

A Normal School was conducted in Tallahassee during July, 1883, and there was expended in conducting the same, out of the appropriation for that year, \$323.15.

There was expended for the Normal Department of East Florida Seminary, for session 1883-4, \$750. The same amount was ordered to be expended for the West Florida Seminary. These sums were used in the education and training of persons who intended to make teaching a profession.

Teachers' Institutes were held in Quincy (two), one for white teachers and one for colored teachers; two in Tallahassee, one for colored and one for white teachers; two in Madison, one for white and one for colored teachers; one in Lake City, for colored teachers; and one in Polk county, for white teachers. The amount expended from the State appropriation in the support and conducting of these Institutes was \$756.15. To this amount was added money received from the Peabody Fund in aid of Institute work.

The Peabody Fund for the year 1883 was distributed as follows: \$300 to Jefferson Academy, Monticello; \$300 to the Quincy Academy, at Quincy; \$250 to the Starke Institute, at Starke; \$300 to the Lincoln Academy, at Tallahassee. I turned over to my successor \$200 of the fund. The balance was expended in the aid of Institute work. In addition to the above, \$125 was paid by the Peabody Fund towards defraying expense of colored Teachers' Institute held in the latter portion of the year 1882 and first of 1883.

EXPLANATORY.

It will be seen that on account of failure on the part of the County Superintendents to report, that Table No. 1 is incomplete and unsatisfactory. In order, therefore, that the develop-

ment of the public schools throughout the State might be clearly presented, I have instituted a comparison in Table No. 2 between 1882 and 1883 as to the number of schools. I have taken the figures for 1883 of the number provided for, rather than those representing the number reported as operated, for the reason that in many of the counties the majority of the schools are not opened until during the latter half of the scholastic year, namely: From the first of April to the 30th of September. The true number of schools established up to the close of my official service must then be represented by the figures given under the head of "No. of schools provided for."

Leaving out the nine counties from which no reports have been received, it will be noticed that the increase in the number of schools for the year is 245, which added to the number reported for 1882, gives 1,479 as the total number of schools established up to the date of this report. Of course this calculation is made on the assumption that there has been no diminution in the nine counties taken as a whole which have not been heard from. But this is a reasonable assumption, for in the counties given in the table it will be observed that while in several the figures are the same for the two years, yet in no instance has the number of schools been diminished. Besides, I am satisfied that in at least four of nine counties additional schools have been organized.

The statistics in other respects for both years are so deficient that I find it would be very unsatisfactory to tabulate a comparative statement. It may be mentioned, however, that in many counties there has been an increase, both in the school attendance and the length of term.

The statistics of the year, as far as they have been compiled at this time, are attached to this report.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully yours,

E. K. FOSTER.

TABLE No. 1.
SCHOOL STATISTICS FOR 1883.

NAME OF COUNTY.	Number of Schools Op- erated.	Number of Schools pro- vided for.	Number of Pupils in Attendance.	Length of Term in Months.	Length of Term in Days.	REMARKS.
Alachua.....	70	74	3237	4½	102	
Baker.....	22	22	465	3	66	
Bradford.....	48	48	1895	3	66	
Brevard.....	16	30	256	4 3-22	91	
Calhoun.....	13	13	362	3	66	
Clay.....	34	36	934			
Columbia.....	83	83				
Dade.....						Not organized
Duval.....	50	55	2665	5 & 8	110&176	
Escambia.....						No Report
Franklin.....	3	4	206	4½	102	
Gadsden.....	49	56	2246	3 3-22	69	
Hamilton.....	47	47	799			
Hernando.....						No Report
Hillsborough.....	41	61	1462	4 1-22	89	
Holmes.....	20	20	362	3	66	
Jackson.....	66	66	2342			
Jefferson.....						No Report
Lafayette.....	14	34	384			
Leon.....	48	51	2472	5	110	
Levy.....	29	40	1058	3	66	
Liberty.....	10	10	300			
Madison.....	41	58	1884	4	88	
Manatee.....	44	48	1390	5	110	
Marion.....	73	73		5	110	
Monroe.....						No Report
Nassau.....	37	44	1103	4	88	
Orange.....	69	69	1565	5	110	
Polk.....						No Report
Putnam.....	49	49	1341	5	108	
Santa Rosa.....	42	42				
St. Johns.....	17	25	703	7	154	
Sumter.....	38	51	963			
Suwannee.....	47	49	1848	3	66	
Taylor.....	15	15	375	4	88	
Volusia.....						No Report
Wakulla.....						No Report
Walton.....						No Report
Washington.....						No Report

TABLE No. 2.
Comparative Statement for 1882 and 1883.

NAMES OF COUNTIES.	1882 No. of Schools.	1883 No. of Schools.	Increase in favor 1883.
Alachua.....	64	74	10
Baker.....	20	22	2
Bradford.....	46	48	2
Brevard.....	19	30	11
Calhoun.....	7	13	6
Clay.....	26	36	10
Columbia.....	50	83	33
Dade.....	..	..	..
Duval.....	48	55	7
Escambia.....	..	..	..
Franklin.....	4	4	..
Gadsden.....	47	56	9
Hamilton.....	39	47	8
Hernando.....	..	..	..
Hillsborough.....	46	61	15
Holmes.....	13	20	7
Jackson.....	36	66	30
Jefferson.....	..	..	..
Lafayette.....	25	34	9
Leon.....	51	51	..
Levy.....	33	40	7
Liberty.....	8	10	2
Madison.....	58	58	..
Manatee.....	48	48	..
Marion.....	44	73	29
Monroe.....	..	..	..
Nassau.....	41	44	3
Orange.....	57	69	12
Polk.....	..	..	..
Putnam.....	46	49	3
Santa Rosa.....	21	42	21
St. Johns.....	25	25	..
Sumter.....	43	51	8
Suwannee.....	49	49	..
Taylor.....	14	15	1
Volusia.....	..	..	..
Wakulla.....	..	..	..
Walton.....	..	..	..
Washington.....	..	..	..
Total.....			245

OFFICE SUPERINTENDENT PUBLIC INSTRUCTION, }
TALLAHASSEE, FLA., December 31, 1884. }

To His Excellency, Wm. D. Bloxham, Governor of Florida:

SIR:—In obedience to the demands of the Constitution prescribing my duties as Superintendent of Public Instruction, I herewith have the honor to render my report for the unexpired term of office commencing February 22d, 1884.

I am, your Excellency, your obedient servant,

ALBERT J. RUSSELL,
Superintendent Public Instruction.

REPORT.

While it would appear unnecessary for me to allude to the importance and necessity of popular education, I so completely recognize the *extraordinary* importance of a thorough system of public schools for Florida especially that I feel constrained to urge upon the Legislature and the people a liberal support and maintenance of such a system in every county.

First. For the beneficent effects upon our government, its refining and elevating influence upon general society, and the power and capability it bestows upon the people in the pursuit of every avocation of life.

Also because of the fact that with our vast expanse of unsettled territory, our magnificent climate, and general as well as unique products, we are inviting and drawing our increasing population in immigrants almost solely from the States in our own country, most of whom are, and have been, accustomed to the privileges of fine public schools, and who inquire of and look for them wherever they contemplate a removal.

In peopling our one State, for there is but one Florida in all the land, we have the opportunity, and it should be our aim, to select or influence the very best classes of society, whether as toilers, artisans, mercantile or professional, and to do this we must present the proper inducements, among which there are none more potent than a good, liberal public school system.

These latter reasons supplementing those higher motives above mentioned, should, I think, move the representatives of the people to a liberal provision for the education of the children.

It is my very great pleasure to report a greatly increased interest on the part of the people in the work of the school all over the State. In the discharge of my duties it has been my privilege to visit many of the counties, to wit: Jackson, Hamilton, Columbia, Hernando, Hillsborough, Marion, Escam-

bia, Santa Rosa and St. Johns, and in most of them have held public meetings and addressed and conferred with the people, who, without exception, evinced a deep and abiding interest in the schools, and I am confident, from subsequent observation, much good has been done. Coming into the office at so late a period, finding it necessary to look up the points of special interest involved, and the latter portion of the year being consumed in the all-absorbing interests of a general election, I have been prevented from doing as much work as I might have done, and, I trust, having accomplished much more good.

In obedience to the act of the Legislature of 1883, providing for Teachers' Institutes, I took up this very important work. At first I designed grouping two or three or four counties together in Institutes, as the circumstances might warrant, hoping thereby to have larger and more enthusiastic gatherings of the teachers, and of course accomplishing the more good. My first effort was with Suwannee, Columbia and Hamilton. The good people of the latter county at Jasper generously offered to entertain the teachers and officers without charge, and therefore Jasper was chosen as the place to hold the Institute.

On assembling, there were present but two or three from Columbia and the same number from Suwannee, and a larger number from Hamilton. While we had a very interesting and, I have no doubt, a very profitable Institute, I found the grouping plan would not work. The poverty of most teachers, the inconvenience of travel and strange impression that these Institutes were to be places and times of severe test and examination, rather than opportunities of aid and instruction, had kept many away. I therefore gave up the plan of grouping and determined to hold these Institutes, as far as I could, in individual counties, and succeeded in the following: Institutes were held in Columbia, Hamilton, Hernando, Hillsborough, Jackson, Jefferson and Manatee counties, each of which was exceedingly interesting and profitable. I employed competent instructors, was present myself and used every means at my command to insure the end proposed by the legislative enactment. The cost of these will be found at the close of my report.

✓ In regard to the appropriation for Normal Schools and the design of the Legislature in that direction, upon inquiry I found that Normal Departments had been opened in each of the Seminaries East and West, in which any white person of suitable character may enter free of tuition charges, who desires to make teaching a profession. These departments have been in successful operation during the last scholastic year, and are at work also this. These Institutions are each doing a

great work for the State, both in their general work and in these Normal Departments. For a more detailed account of their operations, see extracts from the reports of their officers for the year 1884.

In view of the fact that these Normal Departments in each of the seminaries were open to all who desired to make themselves proficient in teaching free of charge I required those who entered to make the following

DECLARATION :

I, A. B. of..... County, was.....
years old on the.....day of.....188....
My object in obtaining Normal Instruction is to qualify myself to teach in, and conduct schools in the State of Florida, and for this purpose it is my intention to remain in the Normal Department of the seminary two years, and I hereby promise to teach, after I have left it at least two years in the Public Schools of this State if I have opportunity.

I furthermore promise to attend regularly and faithfully upon all exercises required and to conform cheerfully to the discipline and rules which may be prescribed. I also promise to report myself by letter or otherwise as often as once a year to the Superintendent of Public Instruction for the period of two years.

(signed)

I also issued a letter to the officers of these institutions requesting them to conform to the spirit of the declaration, to admit no one to the department under fifteen years of age or whose moral character was not in full keeping with the office of teaching, and that where either mental or moral inadaptability should develop after entering upon the course of study, to earnestly dissuade them from their purpose to teach.

This I believed necessary to the spirit and object of the Act of the Legislature in making the appropriation for Normal Instruction.

I organized and conducted for two months each Normal Schools for colored teachers, one at Gainesville and one at Tallahassee. I employed the best instructors at my command who earnestly and faithfully labored to teach these persons how to teach. I visited these schools and labored by frequent lectures to impress them with the importance and responsibility of their work in relation to their race. I have every reason to believe much good has been accomplished. My correspondence with several County Superintendents and my personal observation assures me of the great improvement in the schools where the teachers who attended upon these Normals are employed. Cer-

tificates of the second and third class were issued to those who actually passed meritoriously such an examination as was indicated by the Act of the Legislature, and were in number as follows :

Teachers in attendance at Tallahassee.....	47
Teachers in attendance at Gainesville.....	47
Number receiving second class certificates.....	11
Number receiving third class certificates.....	40

Full and complete reports from the principals of these schools, Professor W. N. Sheats at Gainesville and Professor John A. Graham at Tallahassee, are on file in this office subject to investigation by the Legislature or its committees. The cost of these schools will be found among the statements accompanying this report.

SEMINARIES.

These Institutions are constantly taking higher stands and advanced steps in general proficiency and usefulness, and commend themselves to the patronage of the people in the East and West divisions of the State, as provided by law, and should be heartily encouraged and supported. Each is supplied with an admirable corps of teachers, and present as fine and promising classes of pupils as can be seen at any school in the country. Both of these Seminaries are empowered to grant diplomas or confer degrees.

Hon. Jesse T. Bernard, Secretary Board of Trustees West Florida Seminary, in his very elaborate report of the operations of the West Florida Seminary, located at Tallahassee, says :

"During the year 1883-84 there was a better attendance of pupils and a larger corps of teachers than ever before, there being seventy-four matriculates and seven professors, including that of music. The students are from various counties, as follows: From Leon county, 59; Hamilton county, 3; Jefferson county, 1; Jackson county, 1; Wakulla county, 1; Taylor county, 1; Hillsborough county, 1; Madison county, 3; Kentucky, 2; New York, 1; Illinois, 1; making a total of 74. Of these, fifteen improve the Normal class privileges, they having signified their intention of teaching two years within the State after completing the Normal course.

"The number of beneficiaries sent by the different counties were as follows: From Leon county, 8; from Hamilton county, 3; from Jefferson county, 1; from Jackson county, 1; from Wakulla county, 1; from Taylor county, 1; from Madison county, 3; total, 18."

Misses Nellie Bassett and Bessie Linn were awarded diplomas of Licentiate of Instruction.

In view of the prospective increase of pupils and a demand for room, the Board has caused to be built a commodious addition capable of accommodating many more pupils, adding much to the appearance as well as comfort and convenience of the Seminary, the whole of which has been supplied with new school furniture and facilities. Altogether I feel constrained to congratulate the people of the Western Division upon so excellent a school in all its appointments.

The Secretary's report is on file in this office, and subject to examination.

Hon. J. D. Matheson, President Board of Trustees East Florida Seminary, reports as follows:

"The total number of pupils in attendance in the Normal Department is twenty-five: Monroe county, 2; Marion county, 2; Manatee county, 1; Hernando county, 2; Orange county, 1; Volusia county, 1; St. Johns county, 1; Hillsborough county, 1; Levy county, 1; Nassau county, 1; Alachua county, 8; Putnam county, 1; Hamilton county, 1; Columbia county, 1; Bradford county, 1; total, 25. Number of Normal students from this Seminary who have already engaged in the work of teaching in the State is fifteen, and good report has been received of the work."

Each of these pupils received instruction in the Academic work of the Seminary, and special instruction in physiology and hygiene. A large increase in pupils in the Normal Department is confidently expected by the officers and teachers. Any white person of good moral character, properly prepared, and who desires to teach, is admitted to this Seminary, in its Normal Department, whether otherwise connected with it or not.

The following statement from the President, will further set forth the work of this seminary:

"The burned building has been replaced by a handsome and commodious brick edifice, with four large class-rooms down stairs, and an ample study hall, library room, superintendent's office, and commandant's office up stairs. The building throughout is furnished with the best improved desks, settees, wall slates and other important educational appliances.

"A library has been started which already numbers about four hundred volumes, including one full set of Appleton's and Chambers' Encyclopedias, Lippincott's Gazetteer, Geographical Dictionary, &c. Most of the books are new and all are of standard literary merit. New books are being constantly added.

"There are at present seventy-seven students in attendance at the seminary; sixty-five males and twelve females.

"The number is not so large as during previous sessions, but the falling off in number is more than compensated for by the increased age of the students; the average age of those now in attendance being seventeen years.

"Seventy-seven pupils represent eighteen counties of East Florida, embracing all the counties east of the Suwannee excepting Baker, Dade, Polk and Hillsboro. Chicago, Illinois, sends three young men, and Savannah, Ga., one. These last named students are *not* "winter visitors," but have been sent here by their parents (who have not accompanied them) for the purpose of attending the seminary, while securing the benefits of a warm climate. Three of the four were in attendance last session.

"Special attention is given to normal training. The necessary academic studies being attended to in the regular classes of the Seminary, while the Training Class meets daily for instruction in the Theory and Practice of Teaching, the instruction in that department being given by Prof. G. Y. Renfro, an A. M. from the Lebanon (Ohio) Normal University. No student is admitted to the Training Class who does not comply with the State law in regard to normal instruction and who does not pursue a course of academic study that should prepare him or her for an examination for a second-class teacher's certificate at the close of the current session. The class now numbers ten; eight males and two females.

"Four other young men joined the class but were pronounced ineligible by the State Superintendent on account of their inability to pledge attendance at the Seminary for two years. Others will doubtless join the session. There will no doubt be a large increase in the number of students after the Christmas intermission.

"The students now in attendance would do credit to any institution.

"At the request of the State Superintendent, a special examination was held in November last and the class papers sent forward as a part of the educational exhibit of the State at the Exposition in New Orleans."

It is with great pleasure I can say I believe a most excellent work is being done in the East Florida Seminary, in all its departments, and that it is an Institution which the State may look upon with great satisfaction.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

On coming into office I found that the Board of Trustees of whom the law makes the Superintendent of Public Instruction chairman, had located the college in Columbia county, at Lake

City; that the people of Lake City had offered one hundred acres of land and fifteen thousand dollars for building purposes, and in view of this generous and public-spirited offer and the central position and acknowledged healthfulness of the locality, proved satisfactory reasons for its location. Also that a contract had been made with reliable and competent builders for the erection of the building and that the foundation had been laid. During the present year, the building has been completed in all its parts, and the Faculty elected and organized, for the character of which I refer you to the following extracts from the first announcement made of the college:

FACULTY.

ASHLEY D. HURT, A. M.,

Ancient Languages.

J. N. WHITNER,

Agriculture, Horticulture and Botany.

ALEX. Q. HOLLADAY,

English Language and Literature.

E. S. DAVIS, PH. D.,

Mathematics and Tactics.

J. M. PICKEL, PH. D.,

Physics and Chemistry.

FOUNDATION AND OBJECT.

The Act of Legislature establishing the Florida State Agricultural College provides for a "liberal and practical education in the several pursuits and professions of life." The Trustees, therefore, following the example of other States of the Union in the interpretation of this language of the Congressional Act with reference to each State's circumstances and special needs, have determined to found a school in which liberal culture and practical education shall proceed together—a school in which the arts and sciences shall be diligently studied in their theoretical as well as in their applied forms. Florida has not had heretofore within her borders a single college in which to educate her youth, but intrusted to other and distant States a work which it is her duty to perform. The time, however, is now at hand when she can not only call her children back to receive the instruction so long denied them at home, but can, also, honestly promise to the youth of sister States, along with bright skies, educational advantages of a high order.

FARM AND BUILDINGS.

For the accommodation of the College the Trustees have acquired, by donation and by purchase, a farm and grounds comprising one hundred and twelve acres of land suitable for agricultural, horticultural, and ornamental purposes, lying within and near the corporate limits of Lake City. A building handsome in style and commodious in proportions is now erected and ready for occupancy. Farm buildings, propagating houses, conservatories, etc., will be added from time to time, as demanded by the course of instruction.

SESSION.

[[The session will begin on the first Monday in October of each year and will continue thirty-six weeks. There will be two terms, known as the Winter Term and Spring Term, the former ending February and the latter June, of each year.

COURSE OF STUDY AND DEGREES.

For the present, collegiate instruction will be limited to six undergraduate courses of study, which lead to three appropriate degrees, viz: a Classical Course and a Literary Course, leading to the degree of Bachelor of Arts (B. A.); a General Course in Science, a Course in Engineering, and a Course in Agriculture, leading to the degree of Bachelor of Science (B. S.); and a Philosophical Course, or Course in Letters and Political Science, leading to the degree of Bachelor of Philosophy, (B. Ph.).

In explanation of some departure from the usual path leading to the degree in arts, the Trustees would say that, while not undervaluing the time-honored course in which prominence is given to mathematics and the classic languages of antiquity, they yet, with President Eliot, of Harvard University, acknowledge the advanced position in academic work now held by the modern languages, including our own English, and would, therefore, admit to this degree students in the Literary Course who may substitute proficiency in French or German for the Greek of the Classical Course.

SUB-COLLEGIATE INSTRUCTION.

Believing too, with the same high authority, that elementary work in the physical sciences and in the modern languages is delayed too long, they offer instructions in these departments of knowledge early in the student's career, and, for this purpose, have made temporary provision for thorough preparatory discipline in the sub-collegiate classes. These will be discontinued as soon as private enterprise, under the direction

of the college, or the increased efficiency of the public school system shall furnish the preparation demanded for entrance upon collegiate work.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION.

Candidates for admission into the Freshman Class must be fifteen years of age, must furnish satisfactory testimonials of good character, and must pass an examination in all the studies of Class A of the Sub-Collegiate Department. Pupils not less than twelve years of age will be admitted into Class C of Sub-Collegiate Department when able to begin the study of Latin. A scheme of studies in this department is given below. Full schemes of the collegiate courses will be published later.

SUB-COLLEGIATE COURSES OF STUDY.

	CLASSICAL.	LITERARY.	SCIENTIFIC AND PHILOSOPHICAL.
CLASS C.	LATIN.—Primer, Reader, and Cæsar (begun). ENGLISH.—Grammar, Analysis, and Composition. GEOGRAPHY.—Political, Descriptive, and Physical. MATHEMATICS.—Arithmetic, including the Metric System.	Same as Classical in Class C.	Same as Classical in Class C.
CLASS B.	LATIN.—Grammar, First, Second, Third, and Fifth books of Cæsar's Gallic War (completed), Virgil's Æneid (begun), Composition. GREEK.—Grammar, Reader or Xenophon's Anabasis (begun) Composition. MATHEMATICS.—Algebra (begun). ENGLISH.—Rhetorical Exercises. HISTORY.—United States and England.	Same as Classical in Class B, except Elements of Physics and German instead of Greek.	Same as Literary in Class B, except French instead of Latin.
CLASS A.	LATIN.—Virgil's Æneid, six books, completed Cicero's Orations, (four or six, selected), Composition. GREEK.—Grammar and Composition, four books of Anabasis, two books of Homer's Odyssey. MATHEMATICS.—Algebra, through Quadratics. HISTORY.—Grecian and Roman, with Geography. ENGLISH.—Literature, (selections).	Same as Classical in Class A, except Elements of Botany, Chemistry, and German instead of Greek.	Same as Literary in Class A, except French instead of Latin.

METHODS.

In the Classical, Literary, and Philosophical courses, the methods of instruction will be those approved by the highest institutions of learning in our country, and only proficiency, as attested by rigorous examinations, will entitle the student to the honor of a degree.

In the Scientific, Engineering, and Agricultural courses, the laboratory, the field, and the farm will afford to students the necessary opportunities for the practical application of the theories taught, and in no case will the diploma of the institution in these courses be granted to any student unfamiliar with the arts connected with the course of his choice.

The Horticultural branch of the Agricultural Department will be made unusually interesting. Here special attention will be paid to the principles governing the cultivation, propagation, and marketing of those fruits which are making Florida celebrated throughout the world; while in vegetable culture constant effort will be made to develop by experiment, and to make known by regular bulletins, the best methods of propagation, preparation, and shipment of early supplies to more northern markets. Arboriculture and Forestry, Practical Floriculture and Landscape Gardening will receive appropriate attention in this department. A partial course in Agriculture and Horticulture will be permitted to such students as the Faculty, for special reasons, may deem worthy.

MILITARY SCIENCE.

In compliance with the terms of the Act of Congress endowing such institutions, Military Science will be taught by a competent instructor, who will be Commandant of Cadets. A suitable uniform will be prescribed.

BOARD AND TUITION.

Board may obtained in the families of the Faculty at reasonable rates per month. Mess clubs formed in accordance with the Faculty's regulations would somewhat reduce the cost of living.

The Act of Legislature establishing the State Agricultural College provides for the free tuition in all departments of the college of a number of students from Florida equaling the whole number of members of the Legislature, apportioned as to counties. "Such students shall be selected by the Boards of Public Instruction of the several counties from among the most advanced pupils in the common and higher schools therein who may present themselves as candidates," and County Boards are, accordingly, urged to make immediate provision for

availing themselves of this privilege, and to have candidates for admission present themselves for admission by the Faculty on the first day of October.

Of all other students a tuition fee of \$40 will be required, payable one half on the first day of October and one half on the fourth day of February to the Lake City Bank, the treasurer of the college, whose receipt will entitle the student to matriculation. An incidental fee of \$5 per term of eighteen weeks will be paid by all students in college, without exception. Pupils in the Sub-Collegiate classes will pay a tuition fee of \$10 per term of eighteen weeks, but no incidental fee. Diplomas will be charged at cost.

In this college is afforded an opportunity for thorough education long needed in our State which has been made tributary to other States and their institutions of learning in the past; our young men may now be educated at home enjoying their native genial climate while hundreds who from other States would escape the rigorous climate of their own homes may find like opportunities for complete education. The State being thus supplied, every county should be stimulated to the organization and maintenance of such schools as will prepare their sons for a qualified entrance into this college, and I would take occasion just here to suggest to the trustees and teachers of such schools that a free consultation with the Faculty of the college regarding a course of study looking to a full course in the college would result in much good to the school, the college and the pupil. For further information as to expenditures, salaries, insurance of buildings, etc., etc. I respectfully refer to the report of the State Treasurer who is also treasurer of the college fund.

DEAF, MUTE AND BLIND INSTITUTE.

I found upon the record that my predecessor had advertised for proposals for the location of the Institute, and that the best offer had been made by the city of St. Augustine, consisting of five acres of land immediately adjoining the northern limits of the city and delightfully situated, and one thousand dollars in cash. This offer was accepted by the Board of Managers in consultation with the Governor, and deeds of the land were made to the State in the name of the Board and their successors, and \$500 of the money paid into the treasury; plans were made consisting of a group of buildings for the accommodation of both races, separately, both as to living, and study. Advertisements were made for proposals for erecting them, and that of Wm. A. Macduff being the lowest, amounting to \$12,749.00, the contract was awarded him. I have the pleasure to report

their completion in a substantial and satisfactory manner. With a view to a proper organization the Board have elected Prof. C. H. Hill, of the Deaf Mute Institute of Maryland, as principal, in consultation with whom the corps of officers and instructors, &c., will be completed and the institution made ready for the reception and instruction of these unfortunate children.

It affords me great pleasure to report the universal approval on the part of the people of the State everywhere of the Act providing for the education of these unfortunates.

Of course it is to be sustained and operated by annual appropriations made by the Legislature, and I earnestly recommend a suitable appropriation as necessary for the equipment and support of the Institute.

This concludes my report upon State work proper in the educational field, but I desire to call the attention of the Legislature to the fact that in addition to all to which I have referred, that we have, organized and in operation in the State and located in the city of Tallahassee, a University known and advertised as the Florida University, with all the regular departments known to such institutions. This so far is entirely the result of private and philanthropic enterprise. Eminent scientists are filling the various chairs, and the University certainly bids high for public patronage and support as a chief cope stone to our educational fabric. Its Chancellor, Rev. Dr. J. Kost, is a man of marvelous courage and perseverance and hopefulness and liberality, and I cannot refrain from commending him and his enterprise to the favorable considerations of the State government and the people. Florida as a State needs individualization in all her relations; she has been too long tributary to other States and communities, and it is high time she stood forth in her own excellence and achievements, and in none more than in her complete and rounded educational establishments.

REFORMATORY-INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS.

I would respectfully call your attention to the necessity of a Reformatory-Industrial School, to which may be sent vagrant children, who will not attend the public schools, and who will not work, who are found loitering about the streets in vagabond idleness in every town, village and business centre, and who are frequently caught stealing and committing other crimes, and from whose ranks come a large portion of those who are being sent to the State and county prisons from every Circuit Court, and from which they come, in nearly every case, hardened criminals ready for the commission of more violent

crimes against the peace and dignity of society and humanity.

Let a large tract of land, say five hundred or a thousand acres, fertile and productive, be procured, and upon it erect suitable buildings for dwelling purposes and work-shops of the various useful trades, so that upon the land farming and agriculture may be taught and all the trades learned by these children, who are now growing up to be but a curse to themselves and to society at large, and who may come out of this school qualified to earn an honorable livelihood and live useful lives.

It will be seen from the State Treasurer's Report that there is a large surplus in the Treasury, and I know of no better use which can be made of it than to establish such an institution as this which I have described, and which is so absolutely necessary to such a population as is ours.

If established, such laws can be enacted as will ensure such a term in the school as will effect the desired end, a thorough reform, and sufficient knowledge, both as to education and the trades, as to render them good citizens and which can be accomplished without the disgrace or hardening influence of a commitment to prison.

I earnestly commend the matter to the careful consideration of the Legislature.

THE CENSUS.

In accordance with law the year 1884 is the year in which the census of all the children between the ages of 4 and 21 years, and between the school ages of 6 and 21 years, is to be taken, which work has been done, and the result is herewith reported. You will perceive, by reference to census of 1880, an increase of 6,662 in the population of children during the four years past elapsed. I am of opinion, however, the increase is much greater than reported. The inaccessibility of a large portion of our population, the inadequate pay allowed by the law to the Assessors for the performance of this work, leads me to the opinion that a very considerable number of children have not been reached by the census-taker; but this increase, as it is, demands an increase of funds for their education. More room is essentially necessary, a greater number of sittings, and an increase in the corps of teachers are all made necessary, and provision must be made for them in some way. In view of these facts, I earnestly call the attention of the Legislature to the demands of the public schools, and respectfully ask that such action may be taken as shall meet the increased requirements.

I would respectfully suggest that some change in the manner of taking the census of the children be made, to perfect and facilitate the same as to the time it should be taken and re-

ported to the State office, and an adequate remuneration for the work, insuring fidelity, and then a corresponding penalty for failure in the discharge of the duty.

INSTITUTES.

Every individual teacher or school patron or officer will doubtless approve the work of Teachers' Institutes, and recognize the good results wherever they have been held and operated during the present year. Certainly no better work has been done or greater beneficent results obtained in the interest of the public schools, especially in the counties farthest from the lines of travel, and no better use of a public fund can be made than to continue these annually until our supply of experienced and improved teachers shall be adequate to our constant and growing demands.

To this end I would respectfully urge the Legislature to a liberal appropriation for the purpose of Teachers' Institutes on a still more enlarged and extended plan, and enact such a law as shall make it obligatory upon County Superintendents to organize and work them up at the appointment of the State authorities, and also upon the teachers to attend them or be disqualified to teach.

I am grateful to be able to state that the Trustees of the Peabody Fund have appropriated for this work in Florida, in addition to an unexpended sum in my hands of \$437, the sum of \$1,500, referring to which is the following letter from Dr. J. L. M. Curry, its able and enthusiastic agent:

RICHMOND, VA., December 1, 1884.

Hon. A. J. Russell, Tallahassee, Fla.:

DEAR SIR: Yours of the 26th ult. has been received, showing an unexpended balance in your hands of \$437. I shall be able to give you this year, October 1st, 1884-85, in addition to this sum, fifteen hundred dollars (\$1500) for Institutes and public schools, provided that amount can be profitably expended in accordance with our conditions. Please give me your suggestions and recommendations as to the best manner of applying this Peabody aid. * * * *

Yours truly,

J. L. M. CURRY, General Agent.

May I not suggest to the Legislature and urge them to meet this amount from the Peabody Fund with an equally liberal appropriation, with which conjoint fund most excellent and effective work might be done during the present scholastic year.

NORMAL WORK.

I earnestly recommend a continuance of the appropriation

for Normal instruction, and in addition to the regular work of the Normal departments of the seminaries to provide for two-months' schools for white teachers now engaged in teaching and who cannot attend the seminaries; these schools to be conducted upon a similar plan as those for the colored teachers above reported, and also for colored teachers as heretofore.

COST OF TEACHERS' INSTITUTES, 1884.

The cost of Teachers' Institutes for this year, as reported above, has been \$600 00

COST OF COLORED NORMAL SCHOOLS.

The cost of colored Normals for this year, as reported above, has been \$898 00

These separate amounts are more than will be reported as paid by the State Treasurer, the deficiency being paid for out of the Peabody Fund, vouchers for the payment of which are now on file in this office.

PEABODY FUND.

I had given me from the Peabody Fund for use for the year 1883-84, as follows:

Balance of Hon. E. K. Foster, from 1883.....	\$200 00
Amount from Agent Peabody Fund for Schools.....	400 00
Amount from Agent Peabody Fund for Institutes and Normals	700 00
Total.....	<u>\$1,300 00</u>

I have disbursed amounts as follows, under instructions from the agent:

To the school at Quincy.....	\$300 00
To the colored school at Madison.....	150 00
To the Peabody School at Lake City.....	150 00
To the aid of Institutes and Normals.....	260 00
	<u>\$863 00</u>

Leaving a balance in my hand of \$437.00 for use for the School Year 1884-5.

STATISTICS.

For statistical information, showing the increase of Educational work, of number of schools, and of pupils and teachers, I respectfully refer you to the following tables compiled from the Annual Reports made by the County Superintendents in accordance with the law, and affirmed as correct by the Boards of Public Instruction. It is peculiarly gratifying to note the increase in number of schools, which are now 1,504 in the State, being an increase of 270 schools over those reported in 1882; also the increase in number of children enrolled and in daily attendance, being 55,585, an increase of 6,987 over the num-

ber reported in 1882. A careful perusal of these tables, compared with the past, will convince you of the magnitude of our public school work, and its vast importance to the State, and its claim for wise and prudent legislation.

I commend them to your careful consideration.

TABLE NO. 1.

Exhibiting average length of terms in days, number of teachers employed, salaries, certificates, &c., for the scholastic year beginning October 1, 1883, and ending September 30, 1884.

COUNTIES.	Average length of term in days.	Number of teachers employed.		Salaries per month of 30 days.			Certificates.		
		Male.	Female.	Highest.	Lowest.	Average.	First Class.	Second Class.	Third Class.
Alachua.....	103	46	41	65 00	10 00	23 10	2	25	45
Baker.....	66	10	13	62 75	21 68	27 00	0	3	20
Bradford.....	66	26	24	123 33	10 00	24 33	8	21	21
Brevard.....	22	6	16	40 00	15 00	25 00	.....	9	13
Calhoun*.....	66	4	3	31 65	23 00	.....	.....	.....	7
Clay.....	107	14	12	32 00	16 00	20 84	.....	22	4
Columbia.....	116	33	17	80 00	10 00	.....	2	24	24
Dade.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Duval.....	116	16	63	187 50	30 00	55 00	5	74	.....
Escambia†.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Franklin.....	110	4	3	50 00	20 00	37 00	1	2	4
Gadsden.....	82	32	17	66 66	19 00	18 08	.....	6	42
Hamilton.....	65	17	21	60 00	40 00	51 19	.....	23	15
Hernando.....	77	23	14	45 00	11 96	24 57	1	26	10
Hillsborough.....	83	31	21	55 00	12 00	24 17	.....	45	7
Holmes.....	63	12	2	34 00	10 00	21 33	.....	8	6
Jackson.....	61	34	5	30 00	15 00	22 50	.....	6	33
Jefferson.....	132	38	9	50 00	15 00	24 73	.....	.....	.....
Lafayette.....	63	17	6	84 00	36 00	52 92	.....	7	16
Leon.....	110	36	21	62 50	18 00	23 71	.....	15	42
Levy.....	65	22	16	70 00	9 37	34 48	.....	.....	.....
Liberty.....	83	7	8	97 00	15 00	23 33	2	.....	13
Madison.....	66	34	17	30 00	12 00	57 90	1	8	32
Manatee.....	64	23	11	50 00	10 00	32 32	1	29	4
Maric.....	100	38	28	55 00	15 00	29 00	2	43	21
Monroe.....	112	7	14	111 00	25 00	.....	2	2	17
Nassau.....	95	21	22	75 00	15 00	26 93	4	9	20
Orange.....	98	34	46	75 00	20 00	.....	6	46	26
Polk.....	44	18	14	45 00	12 00	36 49	3	10	19
Putnam.....	120	39	19	80 00	20 00	27 00	1	34	23
Santa Rosa.....	65	18	14	120 00	59 10	110 28	.....	6	26
St. Johns.....	96	5	27	85 00	20 00	26 26	1	20	5
Sumter.....	121	29	25	35 00	25 00	30 00	.....	35	19
Suwannee.....	66	35	15	35 00	15 00	23 16	.....	30	20
Taylor.....	68	16	3	46 66	20 00	26 00	.....	3	16
Volusia.....	67	17	26	60 00	25 00	36 00	.....	.....	.....
Wakulla.....	74	11	9	48 00	12 50	21 33	.....	2	18
Walton.....	66	25	5	94 66	20 76	22 66	.....	.....	.....
Washington.....	62	11	.....	78 00	30 00	50 27	.....	3	8

* Taken from report of 1883. No data for 1884 on account of failure of County Superintendent to report.

† No report from this county for past three years.

TABLE NO. 2.

Exhibiting number of schools, number of pupils enrolled, number in Primary Department, and number pursuing the different branches, for the scholastic year beginning October 1, 1883, and ending September 30th, 1884.

COUNTIES.	Number of schools.	Number of pupils enrolled.	Number in primary department.	Number in reading classes.	Number in writing classes.	Number in Arithmetic.	Number in Geography.	Number in Grammar.	Number in History and higher grades.
Alachua	77	3741	503	6002	1904	1634	810	337	442
Baker	24	610	94	313	418	252	134	63	4
Bradford	49	1810	201	1278	964	1028	601	518	327
Brevard	22	327	90	263	214	202	114	50	327
Calhoun*	-	144							
Clay	37	685	163	578	343	308	180	68	75
Columbia	55	1611	1369	1003	691	608	354	335	205
Dade									
Duval	52	2845	192	2773	1912	1794	1308	737	767
Escambia†									
Franklin	5	348	35	200	193	150	70	50	20
Gadsden	46	1897	291	1331	960	900	380	293	191
Hamilton	49	1200	180	747	644	581	287	217	99
Hernando	40	1209	91	744	583	565	197	233	3
Hillsborough	61	1913							
Holmes	14	634	41	634	252	152	62		47
Jackson	64	2692	128	1858	1021	1205	450	250	78
Jefferson	44	1985	1588	1037	797	882	429	293	197
Lafayette	26	572	60	320	226	174	64	21	40
Leon	52	2229							
Levy	38	1531	51	827	680	612	296	148	202
Liberty	12	269	196	223	135	115	33	26	33
Madison	62	2885	190	1448	1092	926	191	275	
Manatee	43	1246	200	502	809	740	620	720	
Marion	62	3048	216	2274	1413	1283	715	373	349
Monroe	10	1104	126	1750	782	791	666	216	151
Nassau	44	1425	96	949	746	729	443	228	173
Orange	94	7987	1597	1241	1318	745	512	692	
Polk	43	938	145	966	487	600	320	250	55
Putnam	56	1564	82	1179	889	767	482	309	194
Santa Rosa	44	1540	154	1001	1112	982	624	182	
St. Johns	19	925	65	609	577	557	350	78	282
Sumter	50	1510	65	954	706	693	419	221	143
Suwannee	50	1175	166	1173	917	782	460	305	265
Taylor	19	426	40	260	95	160	40	36	25
Volusia	44	1131	75	1057	690	690	482	117	
Wakulla	20	572	58	295	199	159	67	30	38
Walton	36	1069	107	899	642	435	221	118	165
Washington	11	1514	63	289	145	134	52	32	

*Taken from report of 1883. No data for 1884 on account of failure of County Superintendent to report.

†No report from this county for past three years.

TABLE NO. 3.

Exhibiting Number of Schools, Total Attendance, Assessed Valuation of Property, Amount Assessed in each county for Educational Purposes, Average cost of each Pupil, &c., &c., &c., for the Scholastic Year beginning October 1, 1883, and ending September 30, 1884.

COUNTIES.	Number of Schools.	Number of Youth of School Age.	Total School Attendance.	Average Daily Attendance.	Assessed Valuation of Property of County for 1884.	Amount of County Assessment for School Purposes.	Per Cent. of Co. Assessment on Property Valuation for 1884.	Total Am't Expended for School Purposes for 1883.
Alachua.....	77	4570	3741	2152	\$3,193,000	\$12,772 00	.004	\$9,816 33
Baker.....	24	752	610	458	554,308	1,781 37	.003	1,997 75
Bradford.....	49	1480	1810	1291	1,152,909	4,329 40	.003½	6,423 46
Brevard.....	22	665	327	226	940,000	3,760 00	.004	2,673 00
Calhoun*.....	7	607	.....	.....	312,837	938 53	.008	.....
Clay.....	37	1192	685	413	1,200,000	3,000 00	.002½	3,194 00
Columbia.....	55	1981	1611	1238	1,188,542	2,922 00	.004	3,750 85
Dade.....	.....	43	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Duval.....	52	5553	2845	2034	5,900,044	17,701 32	.003	31,490 00
Escambia†.....	29	3631	.....	.....	3,475,512	10,428 66	.003	.....
Franklin.....	5	613	348	208	320,555	1,283 07	.004	1,472 44
Gadsden.....	46	4043	1897	1230	992,780	3,543 70	.003½	3,295 00
Hamilton.....	49	2396	1200	907	1,017,296	3,562 42	.003½	2,536 49
Hernando.....	40	1492	1209	840	.....	4,174 16	.002	3,820 25
Hillsborough.....	61	2140	1913	1226	1,595,385	3,986 24	.002½	5,331 63
Holmes.....	14	851	634	314	332,954	999 46	.003	.....
Jackson.....	64	3016	2692	1655	1,023,985	2,559 96	.002	1,353 00
Jefferson.....	44	5876	1985	1583	1,500,080	5,300 00	.003	6,975 00
Lafayette.....	26	880	572	354	532,964	2,128 00	.004	1,573 55
Leon.....	52	.....	2229	1583	1,957,619	6,715 95	.003½	10,427 71
Levy.....	38	735	1531	1102	1,120,686	5,602 41	.004	3,997 87
Liberty.....	12	408	269	196	329,637	756 00	.002½	1,253 00
Madison.....	62	3626	2885	1933	1,463,750	2,912 66	.002	4,694 00
Manatee.....	43	1588	1246	976	1,339,990	5,354 00	.004	2,997 40
Marion.....	62	5042	3048	1670	2,901,559	10,155 45	.003½	9,683 05
Monroe.....	10	2108	1104	794	1,403,458	5,613 00	.004	7,897 31
Nassau.....	44	2368	1425	955	1,859,432	5,583 00	.003	8,470 72
Orange.....	94	1941	7987	1656	4,354,432	12,694 31	.003	12,618 66
Polk.....	43	1381	938	559	1,090,000	2,606 26	.002½	3,081 63
Putnam.....	56	.....	1564	1089	2,535,038	6,943 78	.002½	8,572 00
Santa Rosa.....	44	2304	1540	1248	1,133,130	4,532 52	.002½	3,612 57
St. Johns.....	19	1362	925	693	999,315	3,997 25	.003	3,983 20
Sumter.....	50	1550	1510	1151	2,471,000	10,157 08	.002½	8,843 00
Suwannee.....	50	2210	1175	925	1,410,000	2,442 26	.002	3,590 90
Taylor.....	19	558	426	283	259,342	649 00	.002½	1,495 00
Volusia.....	44	.....	1131	882	2,407,500	9,639 00	.003½	16,635 58
Wakulla.....	20	692	572	400	425,530	1,276 59	.003	1,455 00
Walton.....	30	1080	1069	748	669,478	2,038 65	.003	2,040 31
Washington... ..	11	754	1514	1314	498,764	1,651 07	.003½	769 00
Totals.....	1504	66,798	58,311	35,881	.....	.....	.....	.....

* Taken from report of 1883. No data for 1884 on account of failure of County Superintendent to report.

† No report from this county for past three years.

TABLE No. 4.

Exhibiting Salaries of Teachers and Superintendents, Compensation of Treasurers, Contingent Expenses, Value of School Property, Number of Acres of Land, etc., for scholastic year beginning October 1st, 1883, and ending September 30, 1884.

COUNTIES.	SCHOOL EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR 1883-84.				TOTAL SCHOOL PROPERTY.		
	Teachers' Salaries.	Salary and Expenses of Superint'd't.	Compensation of Treasurer.	Contingent Expenses.	No. Schoolhouses.	Total value of School Property.	Number of acres unsold School Land in County.
Alachua.....	\$9,665 00	\$.....	\$.....	\$101 33	56	\$15,190 00	\$.....
Baker.....	1,865 00	125 00	.....	.....	24	660 00	.....
Bradford.....	6,060 00	300 00	63 46	.....	49	18,200 00	.....
Brevard.....	21 13	5 25	60 00	.....	28	3,000 00	.....
Calhoun.....	194 00	50 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Clay.....	2,373 00	300 00	200 00	.....	22	1,890 00	4,452
Columbia.....	3,750 85	310 00	.....	.....	55	.....	.....
Dade.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Duval.....	18,340 00	18 00	.....	.....	52	52,000 00	.....
Escambia.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Franklin.....	1,296 22	.....	.....	53 00	2	1,500 00	None.
Gadsden.....	3,195 00	.....	.....	.....	49	3,500 00	1,317
Hamilton.....	2,508 49	10 00	.....	18 00	49	1,485 00	7,511
Hernando.....	3,443 78	400 00	91 34	.....	40	6,500 00	.....
Hillsborough..	5,331 63	.....	.....	.....	5	6,000 00	18,365
Holmes.....	953 00	130 00	15 00	.....	14	570 00	.....
Jackson.....	3,530 00	82 50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Jefferson.....	6,975 00	500 00	145 47	.....	5	1,600 00	453,282
Lafayette.....	1,376 00	150 00	47 55	.....	38	950 00	.....
Leon.....	6,960 00	600 00	.....	325 00	.....	.....	.....
Levy.....	3,997 87	.....	.....	.....	43	1,650 00	.....
Liberty.....	1,293 00	.....	.....	.....	10	615 00	.....
Madison.....	3,590 00	660 00	175 00	.....	63	4,000 00	.....
Manatee.....	2,871 70	750 00	68 70	.....	54	13,000 00	81,722
Marion.....	8,943 28	660 00	.....	79 77	62	9,000 00	.....
Monroe.....	6,113 33	45 00	.....	.....	6	11,500 00	.....
Nassau.....	5,449 42	515 00	.....	120 00	33	4,510 00	4,998
Orange.....	12,618 66	.....	.....	194 95	94	11,000 00	.....
Polk.....	3,081 63	200 00	45 35	.....	43	5,820 00	.....
Putnam.....	8,513 00	.....	.....	.....	56	1,200 00	2,902
Santa Rosa...	4,852 22	300 00	101 00	9 35	.....	.....	17,000
St. Johns.....	3,340 00	.....	.....	425 56	26	5,255 00	10,670
Sumter.....	8,843 00	384 00	16 78	.....	3	450 00	8,853
Suwannee.....	3,475 90	.....	.....	.....	54	3,000 00	4,800
Taylor.....	1,485 00	.....	.....	.....	20	.....	.....
Volusia.....	1,348 00	375 00	.....	1,400 00	37	25,000 00	.....
Wakulla.....	12 80	175 00	.....	.....	18	320 00	.....
Walton.....	2,040 31	100 00	.....	.....	25	.....	.....
Washington..	769 00	200 00	.....	.....	25	750 00	.....

TABLE No. 5.
SCHOOL CENSUS FOR 1884.

COUNTIES.	No. of youth between ages of 4 and 21.	No. of youth between ages of 6 and 21.	No. of males between ages of 4 and 21.	No. of females between ages of 4 and 21.	No. of colored youth be- tween ages of 4 and 21.	No. of white youth be- tween ages of 4 and 21.
Alachua.....	5504	4570	2960	2544	3022	2482
Baker.....	1025	752	535	490	225	800
Bradford.....	1700	1480	911	789	242	1458
Brevard.....	706	665	407	353	43	717
Calhoun.....	709	607	383	326	264	425
Clay.....	1381	1192	693	688	287	1094
Columbia.....	2310	1981	1211	1099	906	1404
Dade.....	49	43	28	21	....	49
Duval.....	6417	5553	3181	3226	3866	2551
Escambia.....	4265	3631	2027	2238	1957	2308
Franklin.....	721	613	339	382	247	474
Gadsden.....	4603	4043	2333	2270	3167	1436
Hamilton.....	2854	2396	1525	1329	1139	1715
Hernando.....	1718	1492	956	762	295	1423
Hillsborough.....	2410	2140	1307	1106	311	2102
Holmes.....	1000	851	515	485	38	962
Jackson.....	3410	3016	1826	1584	1699	1710
Jefferson.....	7072	5876	3608	3464	5913	1159
Lafayette.....	1010	880	552	558	34	976
Leon.....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Levy.....	1701	735	827	683	518	1183
Liberty.....	460	408	251	209	200	260
Madison.....	4150	3626	2110	2040	2459	1691
Manatee.....	1882	1588	1034	848	34	1848
Marion.....	5775	5042	3078	2697	3345	2430
Monroe.....	2409	2108	1151	1258	604	1805
Nassau.....	2897	2368	1389	1509	1630	1253
Orange.....	2185	1941	1143	1042	169	2016
Polk.....	1631	1381	903	731	60	1571
Putnam.....	1963	....	....	....	1186	779
Santa Rosa.....	2711	2304	1409	1302	753	1958
St. Johns.....	1578	1363	775	802	513	1066
Sumter.....	1595	1550	867	728	398	1197
Suwannee.....	2500	2210	1265	1235	1028	1472
Taylor.....	677	558	363	314	26	651
Volusia.....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Wakulla.....	816	692	403	413	296	520
Walton.....	1325	1080	686	639	145	1180
Washington.....	820	754	448	384	124	693
Totals.....	88,069	66,798	43,399	38,535	36,143	48,018

I cannot close my report without again most heartily congratulating the people and expressing my great gratification at the grand advance Florida has made in all her educational work, during the past four years especially. Unlike other States she is not blessed with an enormous fund; while her people in the masses are yet feeling to a great extent the crushing effects of the past, she is rapidly taking her place among the eminent in the work of educating her children.

ALBERT J. RUSSELL,
Superintendent Public Instruction.